

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/690,313

Examiner

Marc E. Norman

Applicant(s)

IRITANI, KUNIO

Art Unit

3744

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to application filed 21 October 2003.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-27.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 21 October 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date 10/21/03
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Claims 1-27 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

As per independent claim 1, the prior art does not teach an air conditioner for a hybrid vehicle herein when a residual charging degree of the battery becomes equal to or lower than a charging-starting target value, the electrical motor is driven by the engine to charge the battery; and when the battery is discharged, the control unit decreases an air conditioning capacity of the AC unit, as compared with a case where the battery is charged.

As per independent claim 11, the prior art does not teach an air conditioner for a hybrid vehicle herein when a residual charging degree of the battery becomes equal to or lower than a charging-starting target value, the electrical motor is driven by the engine to charge the battery; and when a running load of the vehicle is equal to or larger than a predetermined value, the control unit decreases the air conditioning capacity of the AC unit, as compared with a case where the running load of the vehicle is smaller than the predetermined value.

As per independent claim 16, the prior art does not teach an air conditioner for a hybrid vehicle herein when a residual charging degree of the battery becomes equal to or lower than a charging-starting target value, the electrical motor is driven by the engine to charge the battery; and the control unit controls an AC capacity of the AC unit, based on a power generation state of the power generator.

As per independent claim 21, the prior art does not teach an air conditioner for a hybrid vehicle herein when a residual charging degree of the battery becomes equal to or lower than a

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charging-starting target value, the electrical motor is driven by the engine to charge the battery; and when the vehicle is in an acceleration state, the control unit decreases the AC capacity of the AC unit, as compared with a state where the vehicle is in a deceleration state.

As per independent claim 26, the prior art does not teach an air conditioner for a hybrid vehicle herein when a residual charging degree of the battery becomes equal to or lower than a charging-starting target value, the electrical motor is driven by the engine to charge the battery; and when an electrical power discharged from the battery is equal to or larger than a predetermined value, the control unit decreases the AC capacity of the AC unit, as compared with a case where the electrical power amount discharged from the battery is smaller than the predetermined value.

As per independent claim 26, the prior art does not teach an air conditioner for a hybrid vehicle herein when a residual charging degree of the battery becomes equal to or lower than a charging-starting target value, the electrical motor is driven by the engine to charge the battery; and when a power generation efficiency due to the engine is equal to or lower than a predetermined efficiency, the control unit decreases the AC capacity of the AC unit, as compared with a case where the power generation efficiency due to the engine is higher than the predetermined efficiency.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Marc E. Norman whose telephone number is 703-305-2711. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Fri., 8:00-5:30, with first Fridays off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Denise Esquivel can be reached on 703-308-2597. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

MN

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Marc Norman', with a stylized, flowing script.

**MARC NORMAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER**